

SeekingHim

Experiencing the Joy
of Personal Revival

A 12-Week Study for Individual and Group Use

"You who seek God, let your hearts revive."

PSALM 69:32b

Nancy Leigh DeMoss
and **Tim Grissom**
with Life Action Ministries

MOODY PUBLISHERS
CHICAGO

Lesson

4



Repentance:

The Big Turnaround

We've learned that humility and honesty provide the fertile ground in which seeds of grace and revival can grow and bear fruit. The next step, then, is responding to God's conviction in genuine repentance. The concept of repentance is largely foreign to modern minds. Just what is repentance? What is its role in the life of a child of God? How do we know if we have truly repented? This study will explore these questions.



**MEMORY
VERSE**

"Create in me a
clean heart, O God,
and renew a right
spirit within me."
(Psalm 51:10)

Going Deeper
in the **Word**

Psalm 51
Ezekiel 18:30–32
Luke 15:1–7
Acts 3:17–20



Day 5: Making It Personal

You've discovered what repentance is. Now it's time to look at your own heart. Prayerfully and honestly answer the following questions. As you do, ask God to reveal areas where you may be resisting His loving conviction. You may want to record a personal response to specific questions, as the Lord shines His light on your heart.

1. Have I ever experienced the repentance that characterizes genuine salvation?
2. Does sin in my life bother me?
3. Do I have an attitude that says, "Lord, everything I know to be sin, and everything You show me in the future to be sin, I am willing to forsake"?
4. Am I willing to call my wrong actions "sin," rather than viewing them as weaknesses, "struggles," or personality traits?
5. Am I more concerned about grieving God than about the consequences of my sin?
6. Am I willing to accept personal responsibility for my actions, without pointing the finger of blame at anyone else?
7. Am I willing to take whatever steps may be necessary to make complete restitution for my sin?
8. Have I, at any time in the past year, experienced genuine repentance, resulting in a change of attitude and/or behavior?
9. Has God convicted me of any specific sins in my life that I have never truly repented of? If so, am I willing to repent of those sins here and now?
10. Am I willing to be accountable to another believer in those areas of my life where I have experienced past failure, so that I may develop new patterns of victory?

Is God calling you to turn away from any particular sin in your life? Responding to God is more important than whatever you were planning on doing next. If God is speaking, the time to respond is *now*. Will you humble yourself and allow Him to begin restoring you? Remember, He loves you, offers grace to cover any sin, and longs for you to walk in freedom and joy.

"There must be a divorce between you and your sins. Not a mere separation for a season, but a clear divorce."

—C. H. Spurgeon

"True repentance is to cease from sin."

—St. Ambrose

Day 5

Write a prayer expressing your response to what God has shown you about your heart and any need you may have for repentance. (The conviction of the Holy Spirit typically deals with specific issues in our lives, so be as specific as possible in your response, rather than just dealing with generalities.)

¹ The Faith-Builder story in Lesson 4 is adapted from "Rescued from Pretense," *Spirit of Revival*, vol. 19, no. 1, July 1989, p. 22, published by Life Action Ministries.